



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
New Orleans District

News Release

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For Immediate Release

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April 17, 2008

Corps to host public meeting in response to community request

NEW ORLEANS - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, is hosting a public meeting on Thursday, Apr. 24, 2008 at the Holy Guardian Angels Catholic Church Youth Center, 425 10th St., in Bridge City to discuss Individual Environmental Report 22, titled "Government Furnished Borrow Material #2, Jefferson and Plaquemines Parishes."

"This meeting is being held in direct response to a request for a meeting by the stakeholders in the vicinity of Bridge City," said Gib Owen, chief of the Corps' Ecological Planning and Restoration Section. "The Corps' alternative National Environmental Policy Act arrangements stipulate that the Corps will host a public meeting, during the review period of any Individual Environmental Report, if requested by the stakeholders involved in the process."

Members of the Bridge City community are interested in discussing the borrow site called Westbank I, which is located in Jefferson Parish. The public meeting begins with a Corps-staffed open house at 6 p.m. A formal presentation begins at 7 p.m. and is followed by a discussion period.

IER 22 analyzes five potential sites for use in providing borrow including:

- Westbank F, located in Jefferson Parish
- Westbank I, located in Jefferson Parish
- Westbank N, located in Jefferson Parish
- Brad Buras, located in Plaquemines Parish
- Tabony, located in Plaquemines Parish

The Corps estimates that the sites may generate up to 6 million cubic yards of borrow material. During the Corps' environmental review, each site was investigated to ensure avoidance of wetlands, avoiding impacts to threatened and endangered species, and to any cultural resources in the area. All or a portion of the sites may be used in the Greater New Orleans Hurricane and

Storm Damage Risk Reduction System upon completion of the Corps' environmental and geotechnical review.

Comments on the draft of Individual Environmental Report #22 are due to the Corps by April 30, 2008.

The purpose of the meeting is to allow the public the opportunity to provide input on the five proposed borrow sites listed in IER 22. Public meetings are an essential part of the Corps' commitment to environmental compliance efforts and project construction on the proposed 100-year storm system for both the Westbank and Vicinity and Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity areas.

The Corps encourages the public to provide written comments on IERs available for public review by mail, e-mail or by visiting www.nolaenvironmental.gov at any time throughout the environmental analysis period. Questions or comments concerning the proposed hurricane system should be addressed to:

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For more information or to sign up for meeting notifications please visit: www.nolaenvironmental.gov.

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